

SITUATION REPORT NO. 3
INCIDENT NO. 95-34
DATE: March 29, 1995 TIME: 11:00 a.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58504

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Spring Flooding (Except Devils Lake which is being reported separately as incident #95-04.)
2. DEATH AND INJURIES: None have been reported.
3. DAMAGE: Counties throughout central and eastern North Dakota, to include Barnes, Dickey, Eddy, Griggs, McHenry, Pembina, Ransom, Richland, Rolette, Steele, and Walsh Counties are reporting damages as a result of spring flooding. Damages include flooded and washed out roads, washed out culverts, and saturated roadbeds. This is an ongoing situation and actual damages can not be determined until the situation stabilizes.

A significant amount of basement seepage problems have been identified throughout the state. The northern one-half of McHenry County is experiencing flooding from the Souris River which is out of its banks north to Bottineau County. In the southern one-half of the county, overland flooding is occurring.

The ND Department of Transportation reported water over the roadway on US #52, between Bergen and Balfour; two sites on US #2, 2 miles west of Churches Ferry and 2 miles east of Penn; ND #200, 2 miles east of Hurdsfield; and ND #5, east of Joliette. Highway 66 east of Drayton is closed;. The I-29 rest areas at Harwood are closed due to high water.

Stutsman County officials reported Pingree is having surface and ground water problems. An undetermined number of homeowners are pumping water from their basements and have sewage problems. County Health and Emergency Management officials have reviewed the situation.

4. RESOURCES COMMITTED:

LOCAL: Boards of County Commissioners, City Councils, Public Works Departments, Fire Departments, American Red Cross, County Social Services, County Sheriff's Departments, County Health Departments, Police Departments, County Water Boards, States Attorneys, and County Emergency Management Agencies.

STATE: Governor's Office, ND Division of Emergency Management, ND National Guard, ND Department of Transportation, ND Highway Patrol, State Radio Communications, State Water Commission, and ND Department of Health and Consolidated Laboratories.

FEDERAL: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and National Weather Service.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: Volunteers continue to provide services to individuals needing assistance. About 60 volunteers from Valley City State University have assisted Valley City and Barnes County in their sandbagging operations.

The American Red Cross is sheltering a rural Barnes County individual evacuated because of flooding.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officials expect higher than normal levels for the Pipestem and Jamestown Dams. The outflow from Pipestem Dam has been closed. The outflow for Jamestown Dam has been increased to 750 cfs.

Jamestown City officials have installed three channel blocks on the James River. The channel blocks direct the water to diversion channels.

The St. Paul District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, assisted by local contractors and the National Guard, has completed a 1,500 foot long earthen dike in Valley City. This action is designed to contain the Sheyenne River level based on Baldhill Dam inflows/outflows.

Barnes County Social Services is sheltering a rural Barnes County family evacuated because of flooding.

State and local road restrictions have been implemented in impacted areas affecting school bus traffic, commercial and agricultural vehicles. Townships supervisors in Steele County have closed roads to trucks. Central and Eastern ND school districts are limiting bus service due to poor road conditions caused by inundation, washouts, and saturation.

ND Division of Emergency Management has dispatched staff members to Eddy, Benson, Bottineau, Cavalier, McHenry, Pembina, Towner, and Walsh counties.

The Stutsman County Sanitarian is requiring residents of Pingree with sewage problems to install sewage holding tanks.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: None at this time.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: ND Division of Emergency Management, ND Army National Guard, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, State Water Commission, and the American Red Cross.
9. OTHER INFORMATION: The forecast for today (Wednesday) is for temperatures to be below freezing. This will allow some water in the river systems to drain off before the new snow melts and enters the drainage systems.

Signed _____
Douglas C. Friez
State Director